



# **Horan Brothers Farms**

- **4,000 Acres**
- **Commodity soybeans**
- **Seed beans**
- **Tofu beans**
- **Commodity corn**
- **Waxy corn**
- **NutriDense corn**
- **Pharmaceutical crops**



































# San Francisco Chronicle

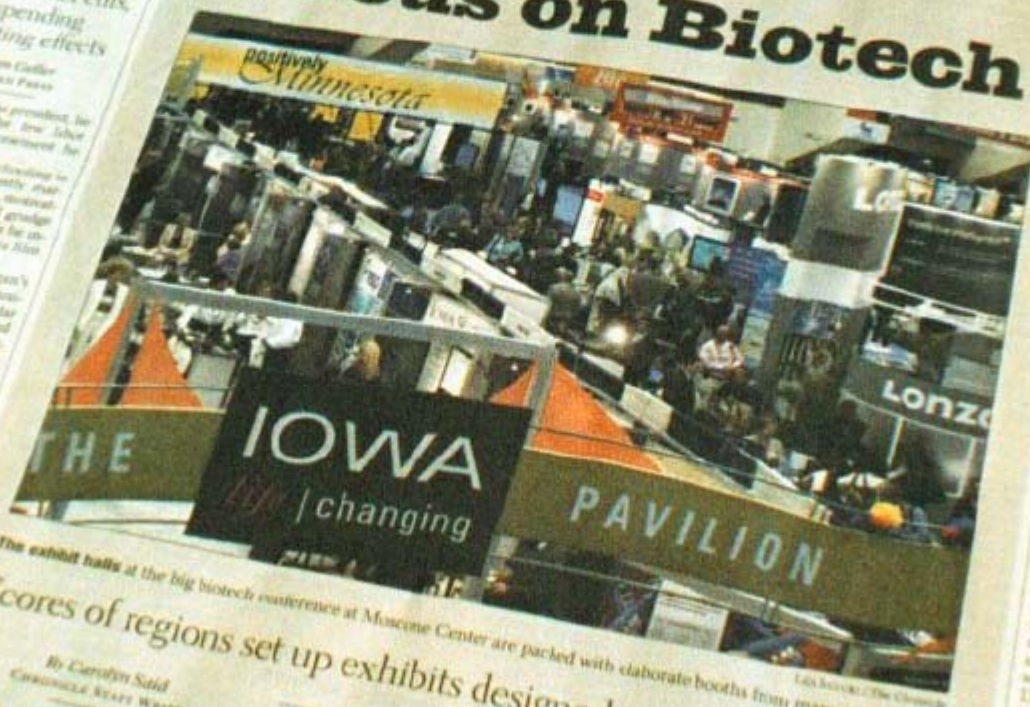
**Court opens roads to Mexican trucks**

**...last respects**

## BUSINESS

BIO 2004 | Biotech Summit in San Francisco

### Focus on Biotech



**Scores of regions set up exhibits designed to woo the industry**

By Carolyn Sotol  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

BIO 2004

The biotechnology industry's annual convention is being held through Wednesday at Moscone Center, San Francisco.

"It's not surprising that regions are setting up exhibits designed to woo the industry," he said. "The equipment and buildings for biotech manufacturing cost a lot of money, so that increases your tax base."

But in a statement released Monday, the Department of Commerce admitted that it "initiated preliminary discussions" late last year with SAP on a possible merger between the two companies.

### Oracle trial's opening salvos

In a statement, Microsoft admits to SAP merger talks

By Benjamin Plimpton  
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

The Oracle antitrust trial kicked off Monday with an unexpected admission from Microsoft: SAP, boosting Oracle's claim that Microsoft is a potential rival in the business applications software market.

In its bid to block Oracle's \$7.7 billion bid for PeopleSoft, the Justice Department has argued that the two companies and SAP in Germany are the three dominant players in the high-end corporate software market, which would become less competitive if the merger went through. Oracle counters that there are many players in that market, notably Microsoft, a claim rejected by the Justice Department, which does not believe the software giant had any intention of exiting the competition.

### Reagan's economic legacy

Aggressive tax cuts, deficit spending have lasting effects

By Adam Geller  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

NEW YORK — As president, he created one of the few liberal economic reform movements in U.S. history.

He had almost no following in economics, but consistently shared a deep-seated conviction: that the free market was the best way to improve the living standards of the American people.

President Ronald Reagan's agenda for the economy and business was straightforward and far-reaching. But those ideas were not enough to define economic conservatism and great government's relationship with business.

"We live in the age of Ronald Reagan's revolution," said John T. Farnsworth, dean of the School of Business at the University of San Francisco. "The revolution is the idea that the government should not be in the business of running the economy."

Reagan's lasting impact on the economy is one of the few things that scholars on both sides of the aisle can agree on.

**B**ut it means big bucks for cities, states and countries that can lure startups and existing companies to set up shop. That's why the policy halls of the biotech industry are packed with elaborate booths from many states.



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## Rules for rice

Sacramento's Ventria Bioscience is proposing several safeguards to keep its pharmaceutical rice out of the food chain. A state review committee is assessing the proposal and negotiating details to protect California's \$500 million-a-year industry, though some question if the protections will be adequate.

Must make "reasonable efforts" – so far undefined – to reduce the attractiveness of its fields to **waterfowl**.

Must keep a **buffer zone** of 100 feet between biotech crops and all other crops.

**Silos** must be locked, labeled and kept separate from food-grade rice.

100 FEET

**Containers** must be closed with a numbered seal that can't be removed without being broken.

Biotech rice can't be seeded from the air, as is typical, and all **planting equipment** must be used only for Ventria's pharmaceutical rice.

**Harvest equipment** must be cleaned before leaving fields for storage, and company must keep cleaning logs for inspection.

Sources: Ventria Bioscience, California Rice Commission

Sacramento Bee/Nathaniel Levine







































